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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Ashley J. Birkett) PATENT Applicant: Serial No.: 10/082,014) Attorney Docket ICC-130.0 (4564/85124)February 21, 2002 Filed: IMMUNOGENIC HBc CHIMER For: PARTICLES STABILIZED WITH AN N-TERMINAL CYSTEINE Group Art No. 1648 Examiner: Donna C. Wortman

EXPRESS ABANDONMENT

MAIL STOP EXPRESS ABANDONMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The above-identified application, but not the invention claimed therein, is hereby expressly abandoned in favor of continuation-in-part applications Serial No. 10/372,076, 10/732,862 and 10/787,734 filed February 21, 2003, December 10, 2003, and February 26, 2004, respectively.

No further fee or petition is believed to be necessary. However, should any further fee be needed, please charge our Deposit Account No. 23-0920, and deem this paper to be the required petition. This paper is being filed in duplicate.

The Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned should any questions arise that can be dealt with over the phone to expedite this prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward P. Gamson, Reg. No. 29,381

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Express Abandonment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP EXPRESS ABANDONMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on April 30, 2004.

Edward P. Gamson